Central Government, however, supports and supplements the efforts of the State Governments/UT Administrations through implementation of a number of schemes and programmes uniformly throughout the country. Funds under these schemes/ programmes are allocated scheme/programme-wise and not State/UT-wise.

Safeguarding the interest of SSIs

835. SHRIGIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any efforts have been initiated to safeguard the interests of SSIs in the face of acute competition from global players in the domestic market;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) to (c) To safeguard the interests of small scale industries (SSIs) in the face of competition from global players, the Central Government has put in place appropriate trade-defence mechanisms, such as safeguards against surge of imports and anti-dumping measures, etc. In addition, several measures have been taken to help the SSIs become competitive, both in India and globally, which, *inter alia,* include schemes/programmes for technology upgradation, credit guarantee for laons up to Rs. 25 lakh, development of clusters, creating awareness among SSI by sensitising them to the emerging challenges of trade liberalisation, reimbursement of the cost of obtaining ISO 9000/14001 certification up to Rs. 75,000/-, reimbursement of registration fee upto Rs. 15,000/- for adopting bar coding of products, availability of collateral-free credit up to Rs. 5 lakh, etc.

Small and Medium Enterprises Bill

836. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring forward the long awaited 'Small and Medium Enterprises Bill' during the current session of the Parliament; and

(b) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?